

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, let us pray for America. Let us stand behind our President and our leaders.

Mr. Speaker, being here on the floor today as a representative in Congress really humbles me. I am a very patriotic person. I was brought up with great respect and love for our country.

On December 7, 1941, I was a young student when I heard about the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, the feelings I felt then, frustration and helplessness, sadness for those whose lives were cut short, and for their spouses, their children and their families, anger against those despicable persons who would inflict such unspeakable pain and suffering on so many innocent and helpless people.

Mr. Speaker, I feel today just as I felt after Pearl Harbor. But this country is changing, Mr. Speaker; and I feel personally bound, as all of my colleagues do, to take action and to stem the flow of violence in this country and around the world. I feel more determined than ever to protect our democratic ideals. I have sympathy for the families of those who are sick and dying. Thanks to the brave firemen and law enforcement people. Thank God for America.

TODAY WE START ANEW

(Mr. GRUCCI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise, as so many of my colleagues do here today, with a heart full of pain and sorrow, anger and frustration.

Today is a day that we start anew. We will find those who are responsible for this heinous act against our community, against our families, against our friends and our neighbors; and we will bring those to justice who are responsible for this. We will move through anyone who stands in our way to accomplish that goal.

But now is a time to also reach out to the families who are sitting by their telephones waiting to hear the call that tells them if their loved one is still alive, and there are those who are receiving the call today that their loved one is not. There will be many who have fallen in this tragedy, a tragedy so great that it is hard to understand it all as we watched as those towers came tumbling down, as we watched as the concrete and the steel of buildings collapsed and those inside of them perished.

This is a great Nation. It is a Nation of true resolve. We will rise to the occasion of fixing the problems that caused this to happen. God bless those who are fallen, God bless their families, and God bless America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair announces that he

will extend for 15 more minutes 1-minute, and ask the Members to attempt to stay within the 1 minute so all Members can be heard on their 1 minute.

ANOTHER DAY OF INFAMY

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, another day of infamy as our Nation has fallen victim to the most vicious, devastating acts of terrorism in the history of our great Nation.

Our prayers go out to the thousands of our fellow citizens in New York, in Washington, and elsewhere around the Nation who have suffered from this barbaric, evil act.

Members of this body have long called for increased support to combat terrorism, to beef up our intelligence capabilities. Our Nation must now rise from the ashes of this devastation. As we review our Nation's antiterrorism policies, we must use all means available to ensure that such a massacre will never be repeated.

To the rescue workers and New York's finest and bravest firemen and police officers who paid the ultimate price, we honor their commitment to punish those responsible. These heinous, targeted, coordinated acts of cowardice committed against innocent Americans was an attack on our Nation's economic and military strength. We will certainly not allow that to occur again.

IN MOURNING FOR FALLEN AMERICANS AND IN SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT BUSH, NATIONAL LEADERS, AND AMERICA'S RE- SOLVE TO OVERCOME TRAGEDY

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my personal welcome to Prime Minister Howard of Australia. I am sure the good people of Australia share with us this moment of tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend President Bush for his eloquent statement last night, before our Nation and the world, in the aftermath of the vicious terrorist attack that took the lives of thousands of innocent American citizens.

Today I rise in absolute support of President Bush, the leaders of our Nation, and our national resolve to overcome this tragedy. I rise to mourn with those who mourn, to comfort those in need of comfort, and to express my deepest sorrow for the loss of innocent life and many seriously injured from this national tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, America is strong, and with tremendous faith in Divine Provi-

dence, as President Franklin Roosevelt said and I quote, "We will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost but will make very certain that this form of treachery shall never endanger us again. With confidence in our Armed Forces, with the unbounded determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph, so help us God."

STANDING UNITED IN OUR RE- SOLVE THAT ACTS OF TER- RORISM WILL NOT DETER US

(Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday America's innocence was shattered by unseen enemies. Cowards, terrorists, struck at the heart of our society, killing mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, indiscriminately in hopes of political gain.

We stand united in our resolve that their acts of terrorism will not deter us. I want to offer my prayers to families who are still waiting to hear from loved ones who might have been at the World Trade Center or the Pentagon, or those families who have already lost loved ones in yesterday's tragic events.

Words cannot express my gratitude to the countless police officers, firefighters, volunteers, blood donors, and health care providers who rushed to the crash scenes yesterday, putting their own lives in harm's way to come to the aid of their fellow Americans.

Yesterday's television images will remain with us forever, not only because of the sheer terror they conveyed, but also because of the uniquely American spirit that was evident: our grit, our resolve, our unparalleled ability to rally together in the face of tragedy.

I am proud of the members of the Fairfax County Urban Rescue Team who were among the first to tackle the difficult debris at the Pentagon. In addition, I want to thank all those who continue to help their fellow Americans by providing comfort and prayer to those injured and their families.

Mr. Speaker, we stand together to ensure that the perpetrators and enablers of these cowardly acts are held accountable and pay the highest price for their actions.

EXPRESSING SORROW, HOPE, AND AMERICA'S FIRM RESOLVE TO MOVE AHEAD

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today all across America the hearts and prayers of our people are with the victims, their families, the rescue and medical workers, our friends and neighbors.

These cowardly acts may have shaken buildings, but they cannot shake